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REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 3, 5, 11 and 13 are amended. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciatively acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3-4 and 11-12. Claims 3 and 11 are now presented in independent form and recite all the features of their respective base claims and any intervening claims.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 5 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention.

Claims 5 and 13 have been amended, and Applicants submit that amended claims 5 and 13 are in conformance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Therefore, Applicants request withdrawal and reconsideration of the rejection.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 7-9 and 15-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,219,021 to Izumi.

The Examiner contends that Izumi discloses an electronic apparatus having a display panel and a lighting means for lighting the display panel; a parameter adjusting means for, with a variation in a light state as a trigger, adjusting a parameter; and a signal correcting means for inputting and correcting an input display signal. The Examiner contends Izumi discloses that the adjusted parameter is the size of the characters.

Claims 1 and 9 recite the feature of "... adjusting a parameter participating in picture quality so as to conform said light state." The application at page 10, lines 5-19, discloses that the parameter includes tone reproduction curve corrections, hue adjustment, color gain adjustment, white balance adjustment, and edge enhancement. Acting as their own lexicographer, Applicants have defined the term 'parameter' to have the aforementioned meanings, which all relate to at least the color qualities of the display image. In contrast, Izumi discloses that "visibility of data displayed on the display panel can be improved by changing display configurations (size, font, normal/reverse video, etc.)." Applicants submit that Izumi fails to disclose adjusting parameters which relate to tone reproduction, hue, color, white balance, and edge enhancement. Further, the Examiner acknowledges that Izumi fails to disclose that the parameter includes information used for tone reproduction curves or a white balance adjustment.

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(Office Action, page 4, item 7.) Therefore, Applicants submit that Izumi does not disclose each and every element of claims 1 and 9 and, thus, does not anticipate claims 1 and 9.

Claims 7 and 8 depend from claim 1. Claims 15 and 16 depend from claim 9. Applicants submit that claims 7, 8, 15 and 16 are patentable over Izumi for at least the same reasons as their respective base claims. Therefore, Applicants request withdrawal and reconsideration of the rejection.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

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Claims 2, 6, 10 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Izumi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,611,249 to Evanicky et al. ("Evanicky").

Applicants submit that Izumi discloses a display control device comprising an illumination instruction section for outputting a backlight illumination instruction and an illumination control section for controlling the illumination instruction from the illumination instruction section. (See Izumi, column 3, lines 30-43.) The backlight illumination time (t1) is variably set depending on the number of characters to be displayed. Izumi counts the number of characters, decides the backlight illumination time (t1) based on the count, and illuminates the backlight for the time (t1). (Izumi, column 4, lines 40-49 and Figure 9, step S48-S50.) When numerous characters are displayed the backlight illumination time (t1) is greater and the backlight remains on for a longer time.

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Claim 1 recites the feature of "a parameter adjusting means for, with a variation in a light state of said lighting means as a trigger, adjusting a parameter participating in picture quality so as to conform said light state" and claim 9 recites similar subject matter. Applicants submit that the combination of Izumi and Evanicky does not disclose or suggest triggering a parameter adjusting means by a change in the light state of the lighting means as recited in claims

In the present invention, a change in the light state (e.g., light intensity) of a lighting means triggers the adjusting parameter participating in picture quality. The parameter is adjusted according to the light state of the lighting means, an input signal is corrected in accordance with the adjusted parameter to output the corrected display signal, which is displayed on the display panel by the display driving means. The present invention is triggered by a change in the light state of the lighting means. In contrast, Izumi is triggered by the decision of the backlight illumination time.

Applicants submit that Evanicky does not disclose or suggest triggering a parameter adjusting means by a change in the light state of the lighting means, thus, the combination of Izumi and Evanicky does not result in the claimed invention. Therefore, Applicants submit that the Examiner has failed to meet the burden of proving a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

1 and 9.

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Claims 2 and 6 depend from claim 1. Claims 10 and 14 depend from claim 9. Applicants submit that claims 2, 6, 10 and 14 are patentable over the combination of Izumi and Evanicky for at least the same reasons as their respective base claims.

CONCLUSION

Each and every point raised in the Office Action dated October 6, 2003 has been addressed on the basis of the above amendments and remarks. In view of the foregoing it is believed that claims 1-16 are in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Dated: January 6, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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